

SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY

1435 DRUMMOND ST., MONTREAL 25
TELEPHONE 879-2863



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY LANGUAGE LAB IN OPERATION; NEW TV APPLICATION FEATURED.

Sir George Williams University has installed a highly sophisticated 68-position language laboratory in the Henry F. Hall Building, Burnside and Bishop Streets, enabling students to receive supplementary language training at their own convenience and at their own pace.

The laboratory incorporates the random-access principle to make available to students in any of 68 positions a variety of 48 taped language courses in any desired order.

A feature of the lab will be the installation of television monitors at 10 individual positions. Initially, the monitors will be used in conjunction with one introductory French course. Film strips, prepared by the University's Instructional Media Office, will be telecast whenever the French course is dialed. The student will be instructed by tape via headphones to react vocally to them. Present plans are for an overall installation of TV monitors if experiments are successful.

The language laboratory will serve as an advantageous supplement to scheduled language classes. Students will be on their own, able to attend the lab Monday through Friday anytime between 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m., Saturday between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Two French courses, one each in Spanish, German, Russian and Hebrew have been programmed. 8 taped drills, changing throughout the year, are always available for each course. By pressing a combination of three of ten touch-buttons, students in each of the six courses can select any of the eight 7½ or 15 minute language drills. Through headphones, the student hears his own response to the instruction while he is speaking.

A 5 minute closed-circuit TV orientation program is being shown at the lab during class breaks to familiarize students with the operation.

The installation consists of two laboratories adjacent to a central control room and recording studio. After the present operation is fully proved, it will probably be extended to the point where programming is available to external users who dial in via telephone. First experiments with external dial access will be conducted from a station in the University library and may also include television.

While Sir George's language departments are the primary users of the laboratory, the random access capability of the system will be explored by other University departments with a view to expanding this into an information retrieval system.

NOTE: You are cordially invited to visit this new \$ 50,000 installation. Please be in touch with Professor G.A.B. Moore, Instructional Media Officer, at 879-5848, or with this office, 879-2867, for further assistance.

From the office of: Malcolm Stone,
Information Officer.